GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:360
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2016
African Snails
Thomas Prof. Kuruppassery Varkey

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Proliferation of giant African snails has been reported in different parts of the country, including Kerala ;
(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Kerala ; and
(c) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to prevent the proliferation of giant African snails in the country ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) to (b) As per the published sources of information and Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) report, the Giant African snail (Achatina fulica) has been reported in different parts of the country including Kerala details of which are as under :

Eastern India − Assam, Bihar, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Odisha, Tripura, West Bengal
Southern India − Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu
Northern India − Uttar Pradesh
Western India − Gujarat, Maharashtra
Islands − Andaman & Nicobar Islands

(c) ZSI has published a monograph on pestiferous land snails of India in which information on the African Gaint Snail has been covered extensively (Raut and Ghose, 1984, Technical Monograph No.11, ZSI) indicating various methods for checking the ever increasing snail population The various methods suggested checking the ever increasing snail population include (i) Chemical control (by using Aromax, Calcium arcenata, Common salt, Copper sulphate, D.D.T., Diazinon, Endrin, Fenitrothion, Metaldehyde, Mixture of 2, 4-D and 2,4,5-T (2:1), Sevin and Simazine), (ii) Biological control (introduction of native species of Helminths, Nematodes, Arthropods, Millipedes, Mollusca, Birds Mammals), (iii) Physical control (by Handpicking method) and (iv) Miscellaneous (Destruction of garbage and house refuse, Cleaning of the gardens, Barriers, Culture of Aeronomas bacterium and introduction as virulent strain). The above publication is available in the website of ZSI.
*****